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**Frederick County
Government**
Frederick, Maryland

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
August 4, 2016

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Executive Gardner Promotes Business ***Invites Businesses to Participate in Business Appreciation Week – Oct. 24 - 28***

FREDERICK, MD – Business in Frederick County is booming. The number of businesses in Frederick County grew at a rate of 4.3 percent over the past two years, and companies added 3,200 jobs last year alone. A strong business climate has earned Frederick County the second-fastest rate of business growth in Maryland, according to financial data company SmartAsset. To keep this trend going, County Executive Jan Gardner wants to hear directly from business owners about what is working for them and what we can do better. Today she invited businesses to sign up for on-site visits from teams of ambassadors during the 16th Annual Frederick County Business Appreciation Week.

The event, sponsored by the Office of Economic Development (OED), runs from Oct. 24 through Oct. 28. During the week, representatives from the county, as well as municipalities and the Chamber of Commerce, form small teams that travel across Frederick County. They meet with local businesses to learn about each and to personally thank the employers for their contributions to the local economy. Last year, more than 60 ambassadors visited 100 businesses. Business owners can register for a visit this year by going to www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/VisitMyBusiness.

“We welcome all types of businesses from across Frederick County to participate in Business Appreciation week,” commented County Executive Jan Gardner. “This is an opportunity for them to talk about their big ideas and to tell us what they need to succeed.”

For the first time, the annual program will include a day devoted to visits to agricultural businesses such as wineries, breweries and distilleries.

For more information, contact OED Business Development Analyst Sandy Wagerman at 301-600-1578 or via e-mail at swagerman@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

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